

CONCORDIA'S THURSDAY REPORT

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April 7, 2005

Alexander Shnirelman has mathematics in his bones

JANICE HAMILTON

When mathematician Alexander Shnirelman arrived here last fall from Russia via Israel and England, he brought with him years of experience, not only in academia, but also in industry.

Professor Shnirelman now holds the Canada Research Chair in Applied Mathematics, in Concordia's Department of Mathematics and Statistics. His main area of interest is the turbulent flow of fluids, a field that includes some of the last major unsolved problems in physics and mathematics.

Shnirelman grew up in Moscow in the 1950s, where his mother taught mathematics at a military school and his father was an astronomer.

"It was a time when there were new discoveries in science every month," he recalls, and he attended a school where students studied advanced mathematics. He also took part in mathematics competitions, and admits, "once I got a first, but I usually came in second or third." He then did his undergraduate and graduate degrees in math at Moscow State University, and completed his PhD in 1972.

"There was no academic work available, mainly because of anti-Semitism, and it was difficult to leave the Soviet

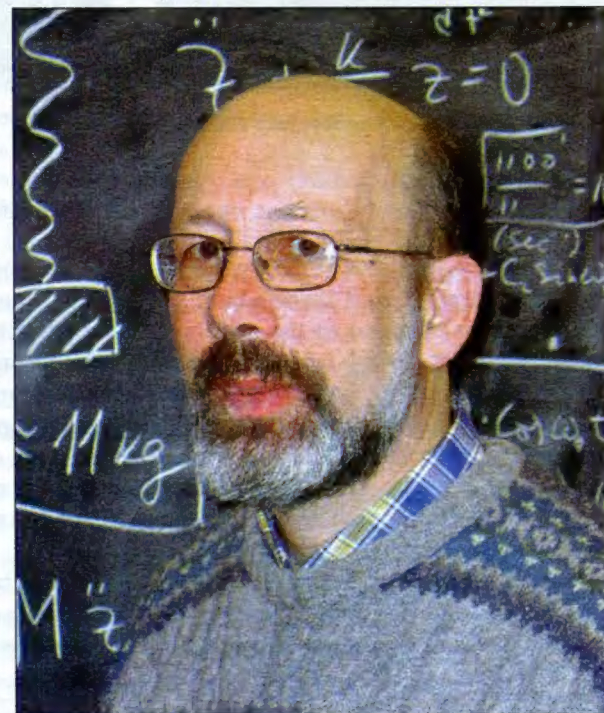
Union at that time, so I found work in industry, at the Oil and Gas Institute, and worked there for many years."

In 1991, he finally left Russia when Tel-Aviv University invited him to teach there. He also spent two years at the University of Hull, in the United Kingdom, before coming to Montreal in the fall of 2004.

As a Tier 1 research chair, he will concentrate on research, but is also teaching some courses. He says he enjoys the diversity of students at Concordia, but commented that the way mathematics is taught today, it does not become "part of a student's bones" as it did when he was a student in the Soviet Union.

Shnirelman developed an interest in fluid mechanics, trying to find mathematical ways to describe the behavior of fluids. "In the oil industry, everything is flowing." Oil encounters resistance as it flows through miles of pipes. Engineers try to solve such problems in practical ways, but as a mathematician, he wants to understand what goes on at a deeper level.

Shnirelman said most problems in mathematics originate in applied problems. "Today, most of the more accessible problems are more or less solved, so now it is the



Alexander Shnirelman

continued on page 8



More than 300 graduates of Loyola College were given honorary Concordia certificates at a ceremony on March 30 in the Loyola Chapel. Before the merger with Sir George Williams University in 1974, Loyola graduates got their degrees through Université de Montréal because Loyola College lacked a university charter.

The recipients responded to the invitation with warmth, and in large numbers — another 400 Loyola grads have written to ask for certificates by mail. While most of those present graduated in the 1960s and early '70s, several were from classes in the 1940s. Chancellor Eric Molson called the honorary grads "dual citizens" of Concordia, and outgoing U de M rector Robert Lacroix assisted in the conferring of the degrees. Other speakers were Jim Donaldson, president of the Loyola alumni, John Ayles, president of Concordia alumni, and Vice-President Kathy Assayag.

Provost Martin Singer made an amusing speech promising an amnesty for late library books, and asked the appreciative grads to spread the word about the university's current vigour. A similar honorary convocation for graduates of Sir George Williams University is planned for June 8 at Place des Arts.

Claude Lajeunesse will be presented as candidate on May 4

The advisory search committee for the next President and Vice-Chancellor of the university is calling members of the university to an open meeting to introduce their selected candidate for the position.

The meeting will take place May 4 at 2 p.m. at a location to be announced.

The candidate is Claude Lajeunesse, President and Vice-Chancellor of Ryerson University, whose second term there ends July 31.

Dr. Lajeunesse was the CEO of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), from 1988 to 1995. Before that, from 1984 to 1987, he was

Director, Targeted Research, for NSERC, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

He has a PhD in nuclear engineering, and is actively involved in community and business affairs.

The entire Concordia community is invited to attend the open meeting, but speaking privileges will be limited to members of the Board of Governors and Senate.

The search committee invites comments on this nomination.

They should be sent to the Secretary of the Search Committee, Danielle Tessier, by May 11.

IN THIS ISSUE

2 Godfather in sound

Iain Cook helps new bands

3 Artwork

Clarence Epstein's coup

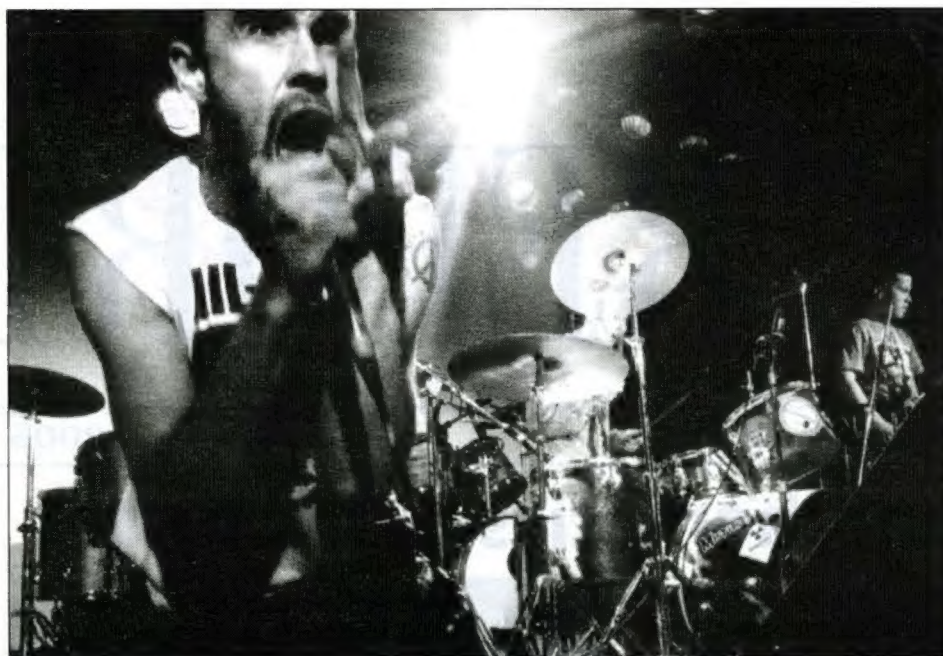
5 RoboKeith

Guitar strums itself

7 Deep theatre

Research has benefits

Iain Cook: Punk artist is a mentor to a new generation



Iain Cook in his performing days with Failsafe.

JULIAN HUMPHREYS

Spin magazine, the *New York Times* and the *International Herald Tribune* have all hailed English Montreal as the next epicenter of popular music. Iain Cook, part-time professor in Communication Studies at Concordia, has taught many of the musicians at the heart of this pop revolution.

Cook's interest in sound grew out of his own musical experiences in the "very politically aware and motivated" 1980s punk movement. His first experience of Concordia was as a musician recording a

demo in the university's radio station studios.

Cook liked what he saw at Concordia. He applied and was accepted into the Communications Studies program. Cultural theorist, musician and composer Paul Théberge was setting up a three-year sound program focused not just on the technology of sound reproduction, but on sound as cultural practice — "what it means to record, and record in a certain place."

Inspired by his experiences in the undergraduate program, Cook continued to graduate-level studies and began teaching

in the sound production stream. He realized that, like punk, audio production is inherently political.

"It's not like film where you can bracket stuff off. With sound you have to integrate yourself into that whole environment. If there's a police car going by when you interview someone, it means something. It's a reflection of that physical place."

His teaching reflects this political dimension. "What we teach is a lot more than techniques of audio production. It's about listening, moving from hearing sounds to listening and thinking about practice."

"We try and have students take a step back and think about the consequences of what it actually means to make a recording. Like handwriting tells us about a person, a soundscape is the signature of a place."

This big-picture approach to understanding sound has inspired many of Cook's former students to develop careers in the music and sound production industries.

Regine Chassagne is a former student to whom Cook stressed the importance of finding unique locations for sound production projects. She took her band The Arcade Fire to a barn on an island off the coast of Maine to record their first album.

Cook was pleased with the choice, and equally pleased when another former Communication Studies student, Howard Bilerman, recorded their second album.

Dave Bryant, also a former Cook student and founding member of GodSpeed You! Black Emperor, included clips from his

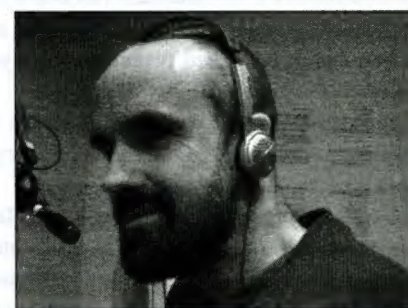
final year sound project on the band's first album. "When I heard that it just made my day," Cook says.

The project was a soundscape of Coney Island residents, including "portraits of these guys in their fifties and sixties with amazing stories to tell. I urged Dave to take the material and somehow have it reach a larger audience."

Other Cook students include Corneille, now a major pop star in France, who did "an amazing aural presentation" on American soul singer D'Angelo; DJ Simahlack, a well-known hip hop DJ; and Phillipa Klein, founding partner of the North American office of the Ninja Tune record label.

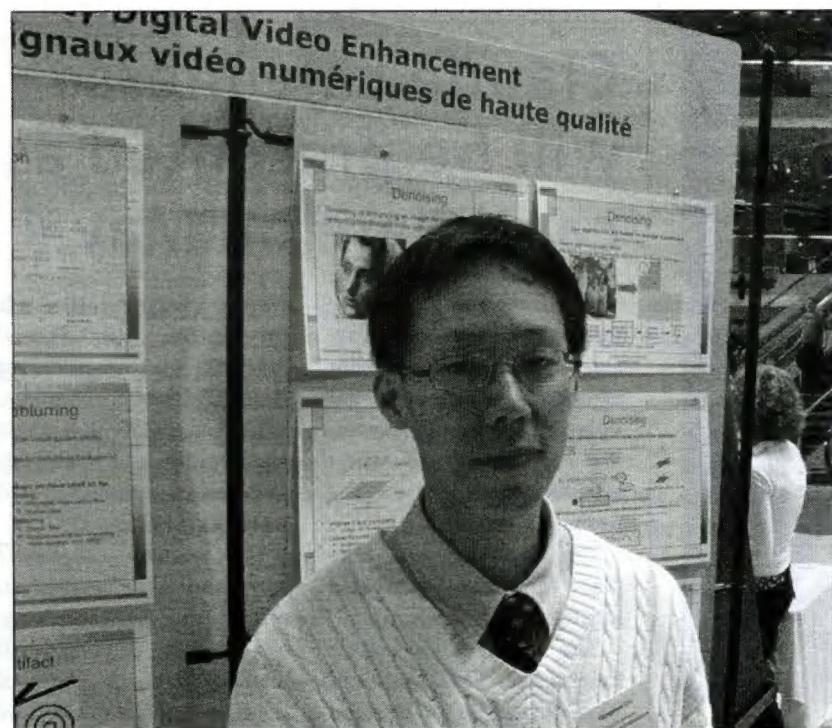
Cook enjoys "witnessing the beginnings of an incubation. It takes a while for them to find where they're heading and for things to fit into place."

With such an impressive roster of ex-students involved in the music and sound production industries, Cook must be doing something right.



Cook today, in a Comm Studies studio.

Digital video project on display



Dongwook Cho (above) is pursuing his PhD in Computer Science under the supervision of Tien Bui. He was invited to take part in the first Quebec National Research Forum at Complexe Desjardins on April 1 and 2.

Cho's research project on high-quality digital video enhancement uses modular algorithms to solve problems of decompression and interpolation that are often encountered in efforts to develop digital 'film-like' platforms.

His technology would take the form of a plug-in that could be installed in all industry standard motion picture software and one that could filter any DV format in the marketplace.

"I hope to one day provide independent motion picture makers with a high-resolution digital film-like format at a more affordable price," he said.

He is currently working as a research assistant for Professor Bui, in the Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering. Cho's research is funded by a joint seed grant to Bui and Marielle Nitoslawska, of the School of Cinema, as well as NSERC (National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada) discovery grants to Bui himself.

Students tap experts for sports careers

EDITH KATZ

The second annual DSA Sport Business Conference, presented by the Graduate Diploma in Sport Administration, was held March 18 and 19 at a downtown hotel. The DSA is based in the John Molson School of Business.

The conference attracted over 75 participants, including students, faculty, alumni, and professionals from marketing and advertising from Quebec and beyond.

Michael Farber, a senior writer for *Sports Illustrated*, told the audience that "in 1979, everything changed in sports" because of the advent of ESPN and TSN. Farber lamented the way the sports television networks have changed the focus from the hockey game on the ice to the game "presentation."

Ray Lalonde, vice-president of marketing and sales for the Canadiens, talked about the challenges of marketing a team during the cancelled NHL season. "While we are still marketing the Canadiens, we have time now to plan for the 100th anniversary of the team in 2009," he said.

Building on a 2004 student initiative, a committee of five students in the DSA program not only organized the entire conference, with 14 speakers and panelists, they raised funds for the event from more than 15 sponsors, including the sports law department of Heenan Blaikie.

A raffle and silent auction raised \$500 for Right To Play, which uses sport and play to encourage the healthy development of the world's most disadvantaged children. The

members of the organizing committee were DSA students Adam Kertesz, Annie Bourbonnais, Maryann Smith, Les Wasserman and Olivier Simek.

In the panel on the future of amateur sport, Graham K. Pilon, owner of the South Shore Monarx football team, talked about the tremendous growth in interest in football. "It's all about education," he said. "We want our young players to stay in school and to continue their education in CEGEP and university."

Gilles Courteau, commissioner of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, said, "We are growing and will soon have teams in Ontario and the U.S. The increase in the number of women's teams is huge."

Recent DSA graduates and even current students are in great demand in all parts of the sport world.

Several students are working as program coordinators in leisure, culture, recreation, sport and social development for Pointe Claire, Dorval and Westmount. Two are in marketing for the Athletics and Recreation Departments at Concordia and McGill.

Two other students were hired recently by Basketball Quebec and Rowing Quebec, the provincial sport federations. One student found his dream job with the Montreal Alouettes as event coordinator and a few months later was promoted to his boss's position when she left the organization.

A job opened up for a recent grad as sponsorship associate with the Grand Prix in Montreal following his internship with CART in Indianapolis.

Art sleuths see results



Sandra Margolian and Clarence Epstein

BARBARA BLACK

Concordia has long been known for art — both making it and collecting it — but that reputation just took a quantum leap. When Clarence Epstein saw the lavish press coverage his work on Nazi-confiscated art got last month in Canadian newspapers, he was justifiably pleased.

As Director of Special Projects in the office of President Frederick Lowy, Epstein has been working for seven years on cultural property projects, including art collections bequeathed to the university.

He was hired as he was finishing his PhD in Edinburgh, and returned to Montreal to work on the Diniacopoulos collection. It comprised about 2,000 mainly ancient Greek and Egyptian artifacts, the proceeds of which were left to the university by the parents of the late Professor Denis Diniacopoulos. Under Epstein's management, material in the collection was dispersed abroad, and Mediterranean works are currently on loan to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

At the request of another set of executors, he assumed a role in the bequest of Max Stern. The well-known Montreal art dealer had died in 1987 and left the bulk of his estate to Concordia, McGill and Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Prior to his involvement, little progress had been made in the task of sifting through the vast collection, allocating it piece by piece to the beneficiaries, and realizing its financial value.

"The executors of the estate were taking measured steps, but there were 5,000 works, most from the Dominion Gallery," Epstein said in an interview. "After working on the Diniacopoulos collection, the scale was one I could deftly handle."

He had the assistance of Sandra Margolian, who was following up her fine arts degree with a Graduate Diploma in Administration and was recommended to him by Edith Katz, in the John Molson School of Business.

"The first step was assessing what we had. Sandra and I conducted a complete inventory." Then they had to figure out whether to sell it off quickly or bide their time.

When art is treated as a commodity, Epstein explained, it changes value. A large volume of art can be disposed of quickly at lower prices, but spun out over several years, it could be more lucrative. The transactions became complex and fascinating.

"We were working simultaneously in London, Toronto and New York with five auction house teams, with private dealers and on the Internet." Fortunately, the Canadian art scene was burgeoning in 2000. "It's all about timing and advertising," Epstein said.

About six months ago, the issue of art works that were sold by force or confiscated from the Stern collection publicly emerged from the shadows. Stern was the son of a well-known Dusseldorf art dealer,

and had just got a doctorate in art history when he inherited his father's gallery in 1935. By 1937, unbearable pressure from the Nazis forced him to flee first to Paris, then to Britain, where he was interned, and then to Canada, where he was interned again.

Eventually he acquired the Dominion Gallery on Sherbrooke St. and became the mentor to a generation of Canadian artists, but he was never able to recover the art he had lost in Germany in the 1930s. A large portion of it had been consigned to the Lempertz Auction House in Cologne and sold at bargain-basement prices.

Epstein hired an archivist at the National Gallery of Canada to trace the last known location of every work mentioned in letters and memos left by Stern. "It takes hard research, and provenance is everything," he said. Art gains value from where it has been, and who has previously owned it.

Key to this detective work is the Art Loss Register in London, which Epstein called "a kind of dragnet for the entire art world. You post it there, and they scan all activities in the art trade to find any overlap. They normally charge a fee, but they offer their services free for art connected to the Holocaust." He is also working with the New York State Holocaust Claims Processing Office and international auction houses.

So far, the art sleuths have identified 250 works from Stern's lost collection, of which they have located five. "They are by Brueghel, Bosch and others — Dutch and Flemish Old Masters — and 19th and early-20th-century German artists." Accordingly, Epstein feels the missing pieces are likely to be discovered in Germany or countries near Germany.

The beneficiary universities are not rushing to litigation to recover the art, but are relying on those who have these works, and who may not even have known about their Nazi connection, to do the right thing.

Coincidentally, the executors of another collection confiscated by the Nazis have just identified several confiscated works in New York and one in the collection of the Montreal Museum of Fine Art.

This was reported the week that Epstein and President Frederick Lowy were in Florida to announce the Stern provenance projects at the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach, and accounts for heightened press interest, including a laudatory front page article in the *Palm Beach Daily News*.

Epstein will go to Europe at the end of April to meet with auction houses and members of the art trade.

"The ultimate value of this painstaking and shrewdly managed work to Concordia is both tangible and intangible," Epstein said. "The moral and financial imperatives go hand in hand."

This column welcomes the submissions of all Concordia faculty and staff to promote and encourage individual and group activities in teaching and research, and to encourage work-related achievements.

at a glance

Congratulations to **Elizabeth Saccà**, Dean of Graduate Studies, who was named a distinguished fellow of the National Art Education Association at its annual convention March 5 in Boston. She is one of 90 from among 17,000 members of the association to receive the honour.

Martine D'Amours, who joined the School of Community and Public Affairs last July, is the 2004 recipient of the Institut de recherche en économie contemporaine's award for the best doctoral thesis on a topic related to contemporary economy. D'Amours completed her thesis on "Le travail indépendant: un hétérogénéité construite socialement" in the Department of Sociology at UQAM a few months before coming to Concordia. She was presented with her award at the Centre de Montréal des Archives nationales du Québec on March 2.

Congratulations to **Patrick Delaney**, a lecturer in Accountancy, who passed the Certified Public Accountant Final Examination on the first attempt. He has taught a variety of courses in the regular undergraduate program as well as in the Diploma in Chartered Accountancy program.

Alumna **Lorraine Muller** (BFA, Music, 1997) has her own record label, Top 5 Records. She has released a CD with her group Lo and the Magnetics called *A Part*, which was launched March 11 at Café Campus.

S.K. Goyal (Decision Sciences & MIS) has been invited to join the editorial board of a new journal, the *Global Journal of Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences*, to be published by Serials Publications (India).

Fiberarts magazine, an internationally known publication for textile arts, will showcase the best of student work around the world, and seven students from Concordia's Fibres Area were selected to have their work profiled. They are **Candice Tarnowski**, **Andrea van der Kooij** (MFA) and **Anne-Françoise Wauthy**, **Christine Mockett**, **Tatiana Woolam**, **Sofi Brazzeal** and **Helle Derrick** (BFA).

Ingrid Bachmann (Fibres) presented her research, "Digital Crustaceans: Homesteading on the World Wide Web," at the Creative Evolution conference held at the Centre for Cultural Studies, University of London, Goldsmith's College, London, United Kingdom. She also gave a lecture on her work to students in the Textile Department at Goldsmiths College.

Ira Robinson (Department of Religion) presented a paper entitled "Anshe Sfard: the Creation of the First Hasidic Congregations in North America" at a conference on "The Jewish Immigrant Experience in America" sponsored by the Centre for American Studies of the University of Western Ontario.

Joey Berzowska (Design and Computation Arts), **Barbara Layne** (Fibres, Studio Arts) and **Ingrid Bachmann** (Fibres, Studio Arts) will present their research at the Creativity and Cognition Conference, University of London, in April. They will also give a lecture to students at Goldsmiths College about their research as part of the Interactive Textiles and Wearable Computing Lab at Hexagram, the Institute for Research and Creation in the Media Arts.

Being Osama, shown recently on CBC network television, has won a lot of awards, including a documentary award at the Big Muddy Film Festival at Southern Illinois University, and an Aurora Award at the Canadian National Youth Film Festival, in Ottawa on April 3. It was also shown at Harvard University as part of the Harvard Film Archives' Reports from the War on Terror series in March. *Being Osama* was directed by **Tim Schwab**, an assistant professor in Communication Studies, and former student **Mahmoud Kaabour** (Fine Arts, 1999).

Annie Martin, an assistant professor in the Fibres area of Studio Arts, is presenting *le moindre bruit*, a sound and textile installation, at Galerie Diagonale until April 23.

Guy Lachapelle (Political Science) has written a book called *Claude Ryan et la violence du pouvoir*. The subtitle is *Le Devoir et la Crise d'octobre 1970 ou le combat de journalistes démocrates*. It is published by Université Laval Press.

Dennis Murphy (Communication Studies) was a panelist and presenter at the Strategic Communications and Public Information Doctrine conference, at NATO's Supreme Allied Command Transformation, Norfolk, Virginia, from March 9 to 11. The title of his presentation was "Propaganda and Truth in War: The Philosophy."

A paper by Anthony Perl and geologist **Judith Patterson** called "Will Oil Depletion Determine Aviation's Response to Environmental Challenges?" was published in the *Annals of Air and Space Law*. On March 18 Patterson presented "Airports and the End of Cheap Oil" at a workshop on improving environmental capacity at airports at the University of Central Florida.

senate notes

A regular meeting of University Senate, held April 1, 2005.

Five-year plan: The Senate Committee for Academic Planning and Priorities (SCAPP) presented "Concordia: Canada's University for the 21st Century," which was developed over eight months and approved in principle at the March 17 meeting. It outlines seven challenges and strategies to meet them. It will be circulated to the faculties for feedback and presented for approval at the May meeting of Senate.

University Writing Test: The Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science presented two motions. One, which was endorsed by the Academic Programs Committee, would create a new course, ENCS 272, to improve the English writing skills of undergraduate engineering students; students could avoid taking the course by passing a challenge test set by the faculty. After considerable discussion, the motion was carried.

The second motion would have established ENCS 272 as the official writing course for engineering stu-

dents, rather than the UWT and its required make-up courses. The arguments advanced on either side were as follows.

Dean Nabil Esmail, Terrill Fancott, Christopher Trueman and William Lynch said that word had got out among Quebec colleges that Concordia's writing test was challenging, and this was hurting the faculty in relation to its local competitors.

In 2001, in an effort to help students identify their own writing weaknesses, the faculty set the UWT in the first term. Fully 50 per cent of new students from Quebec colleges, excluding international students, failed to pass.

It was subsequently decided that the UWT and its courses were unsuitable for engineering students because they didn't suit professional requirements, and because the four-year program has no elective courses. In response to this challenge, the faculty had developed an alternative, ENCS 272, Composition and Argumentation for Engineering Students.

The arguments by other faculty members against the motion were that a single three-credit course could not adequately replace three 3-credit courses; that the UWT and its courses are aimed at clear English communication, nothing more; and that engineering students should not be deprived of the opportunity to take the UWT if they wanted.

Business dean Jerry Tomberlin said the UWT is not an issue in his faculty. Acting Dean of Arts and Science June Chaikelson said that the best results in the UWT, which can be taken in English or in French, come from Fine Arts students. Both said they would vote against the second motion, and it was subsequently defeated.

Next meeting: May 6.

Paul Gérin-Lajoie, builder



VINCENZO D'ALTO

If you look closely at the southeast corner of the Henry F. Hall Building, you will see the name of Paul Gérin-Lajoie, because as the minister of education, he laid the cornerstone of the building in 1965.

A three-day symposium on his influence on Quebec was held March 16 to 18. Most of the sessions were at the Université du Québec à Montréal, but the opening took place at Concordia, and John Parisella, Special Communications Advisor to the President and an expert on Quebec politics, presented the special guest with the ceremonial trowel (above).

Gérin-Lajoie, who was first elected in 1960, was one of the architects of the Quiet Revolution, and the first education minister of Quebec.

Parisella said later, "His influence is still felt today in that he argued that Quebec could conduct international agreements in areas of provincial jurisdiction. He opened Quebec to international concerns and helped Quebec define a modern vision of federalism."

IN MEMORIAM

LEO TAVORMINA

On March 6, the Department of Political Science lost a valued member of its family. Leo Tavormina died of kidney failure at the age of 42.

Leo joined the department as an undergraduate student in 1986. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1989, and Master's in Public Policy and Public Administration in 1993.

After graduating he joined the department as internship coordinator. Thanks in great part to Leo's efforts during the last 12 years, our master's program has enjoyed 100-per-cent placement success and more than 90 per cent of our students are now employed by the federal government.

Leo will be greatly missed not only for his accomplishments but also for his brilliant smile, his enthusiasm

and his generosity. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Simonne, and his four daughters, Celestia, Mahalia, Shaddai, Marjanah, and to the rest of the Tavormina family.

In his honour, the Department of Political Science is instituting the Leo Tavormina Memorial Scholarship for an outstanding MPPPA student.

Contributions may be sent to Julie Blumer, Graduate Secretary, Department of Political Science, Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8.

We cannot think of a more fitting tribute to the memory of someone who cared so much for the department and its students.

*Students, faculty and staff,
Political Science*

Candidates for Dean of Fine Arts

Candidates on the shortlist for the next Dean of Fine Arts were presented to the Concordia community March 23, 29, 30 and 31 at lunchtime in the DeSève Cinema.

They were Kathryn Laurin, Professor of Music and past Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts (1999-2004), University of Regina; Lorne Falk, Dean of Faculty, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass.; Daniel Doz, Professor of Architecture and Head, Division of Architecture and Art, Norwich University, Northfield, Vt.; and Catherine Wild, Professor and past Dean, Faculty of Foundation Studies (1996-2000 & 2002-2004), Ontario College of Art & Design.

Talks in JMSB by noted management experts

Christopher Worley, Professor of Business Strategy in the Graziadio School of Business and Management, Pepperdine University (Malibu, Ca.), will speak today at 2 p.m. in GM 403-02. His subject is "Built to Change: A Look at the Future of Organizations and OD."

On April 22, there will be a talk by Michael Beer, Professor Emeritus of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School, from 2 to 4 p.m. in GM 403-2. The title is "Overcoming the Silent Killers to High Commitment and Performance: Toward a Theory and Method of Organizational Development."

The talks are part of a series organized by Steven Appelbaum, Concordia University Research Chair in Organizational Development.

CSU election is a squeaker

The Evolution slate won the student election for the third year, but it was close. Evolution, led by Mohamed Shuriye, beat runner-up slate Conscious Concordia, led by Anastasia Voutou, by only 111 votes — 1,637 to 1,526.

The turnout was about 25 per cent lower than last year, despite a campaign by the Concordia alumni association to get the vote out.

Referenda

A resolution to have new downtown space for recreation and athletics run directly by the university was passed by a large margin, 2,223 to 457. The referendum is not binding on the university.

In other referenda, students voted to upgrade the student health plan, but not to increase the premiums.

A fee levy for the Sustainable Concordia Project was successful by more than two to one, but a fee levy for the Advocacy service run by the Concordia Student Union was not approved.

Board reps

The CSU representatives for 2005-06 to the university's Board of Governors will be Walter Chan and Tom Price.

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Next issue: April 21

Correction

In our last issue, March 17, we told you about the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Science College. We incorrectly gave the old address; the College is now in the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex. Also, we omitted Exercise Science as one of the participating departments, and we named Philosophy, which is not a participant.

We apologize for the errors.

Start me up, it's RoboKeith! Students design a guitar

JEREMIAH WOOLSEY

RoboKeith is an electric guitar that plays under microprocessor control. Besides the guitar and microprocessor, it utilizes some input/output circuitry, solenoids, and software. Put them all together and what you have is a robotic homage to famed Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards.

RoboKeith started with a group of Electrical and Computer Engineering students who share a passion for music.

Two final-year electrical students approached Ted Obuchowicz, wanting to do a project that would combine their musical interests with their engineering and electronics knowledge. Ted, an ECE instructor, is well known in ECE as a fan of the legendary rock group the Rolling Stones.

The initial idea was to build a robotic mechanism that would play a musical keyboard. Player pianos, musical devices that can play without human intervention by mechanical, pneumatic, or electrical means, have been around for over a century, so a newer technology seemed more interesting.

Ted suggested replacing the keyboard with a guitar. Besides presenting more difficult design obstacles to overcome, Ted said, "It's cooler, and more rock n' roll." The two students agreed, and three more students joined the team.

The microprocessor controls the activation of electromagnetic solenoids, which depress and strum strings of the electric guitar. The information regarding which strings to depress and which strings to either pluck or strum is obtained from the microprocessors memory unit.

The binary information stored in the memory is obtained from several sources. One is the output of a custom piece of software that accepts files in MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) format and transforms it into a format used by the microprocessor to control the solenoids.

Another input is through a graphical user interface via a personal computer. A user can select notes or chords to be played in succession and the guitar will then play the selected musical elements on its own.

Five out of the six student team members play guitar. Steve Kiss has a music technology degree from Vanier College and is writing the software that parses the MIDI file input into a form readable by firmware.

The current incarnation of RoboKeith is limited to the first four frets on the neck of the guitar, hence the need for the parser to transpose notes in the MIDI file down to their equivalent notes as they would be played on the first four frets. This requires knowledge of music theory.

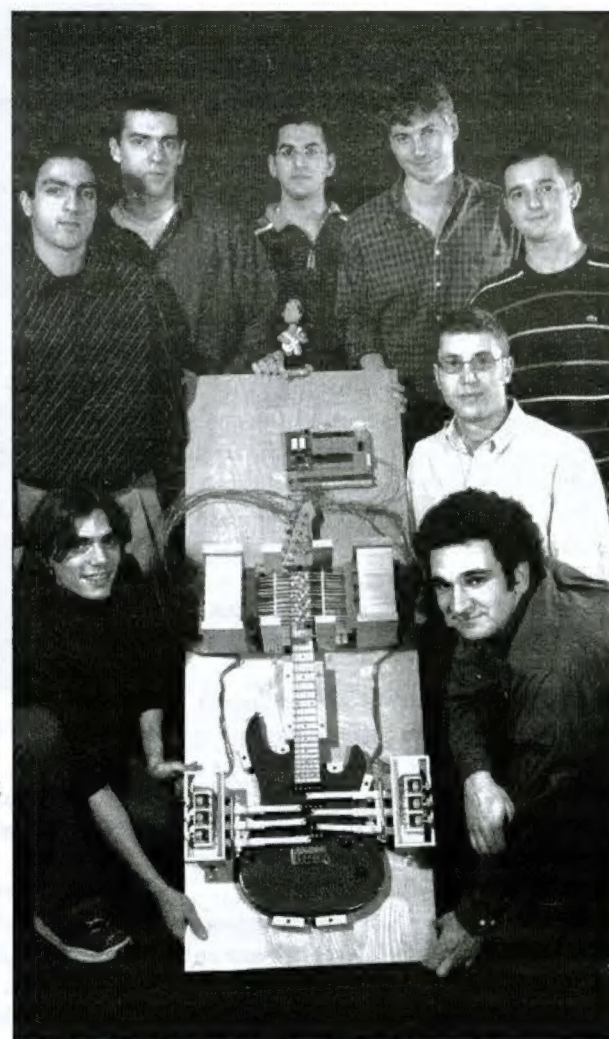
The other group members were primarily responsible for the design and construction of the electromechanical mechanism that performs the important fretting and plucking of the guitar strings.

Other aspects of the design called for a microprocessor to control the operation of the guitar and custom input output circuitry that controls the operation of the solenoids.

The project embodies knowledge from various disciplines of electrical and computer engineering, including microprocessor programming and software engineering interfaces. There is also a mechanical design component.

The group members are quite proud of the fact that they were able to do this on their own, which speaks to their hard work and to the preparation their ECE program provides. A great deal of thought went into the design of the software which transforms a MIDI file into an intermediate format used by the microprocessor to control the solenoids.

RoboKeith has undergone initial testing and can now play songs on its own, albeit somewhat primitive ones. RoboKeith fans are waiting to hear it play some classic Rolling Stones songs. The one most appropriate in this case would be *Start Me Up*.



Clockwise from bottom left: Steve Kiss, Pooyan Haghighat, Omur Kalkan, Andrew Ghattas, Ted Obuchowicz, Konstantinos Vitoroulis, Hadley Myers and Niladri Roy. This article and photo were adapted from the ENCS quarterly magazine.

Leonard Cohen's best songs rooted in American tradition: Norm Ravvin

SARAH BINDER

A Department of Religion series on Jewish themes ended its second season March 10 on a high note — well, as high as Leonard Cohen songs go.

The poet-author-singer was the subject of a presentation by Norman Ravvin, Chair of the Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies, who entertained an overflow audience with scholarly wit and musical interludes.

Under the "provocative" title of *The Rise and Fall of Leonard Cohen*, Ravvin held the receptive audience in thrall as he traced the evolution from poet/author imbued with Jewish and Quebec culture to singer/songwriter rooted in American musical traditions.

But during question period there was some good-natured protestation against Ravvin's claim that 1974's *New Skin for the Old Ceremony* was Cohen's last great work. Listeners countered, what about *The Future*, his 1992 hit, or 1988's *I'm Your Man*?

Ravvin kept his talk light, playing a few bars of *Bird on a Wire* on his guitar to illustrate a simple six-chord folk style used by Cohen, drawing attention to his song styles with CD samples, and using handouts of an early Cohen songbook as context.

Ravvin said Cohen's career divides, in terms of its influence and focus, along national lines, "his early literary pursuits and successes marked by his Montreal Jewish upbringing, his McGill education, and certain senior figures, like [poets] Irving Layton and A.M. Klein."

The transition to the second, American-rooted phase came shortly after the publication in 1966 of *Beautiful Losers*, "his explosive, career-making novel."

Cohen joined the downtown New York scene, where in the 1960s musicians "mined the stock of traditional music, along with the work of influential figures like Woody Guthrie and Phil Ochs," Ravvin said, citing Bob Dylan's recent autobiography.

"Cohen's roots in the American music revival are leaner and meaner than Dylan's, but he shares a number of key formative influences: the blues; country and western waltzes and the Nashville sound; and the leftist folk tradition of union rabble-rousing, anti-war and campfire songs."

Ravvin considers Cohen's earliest recordings his best: *The Songs of Leonard Cohen* (1968), *Songs from a Room* (1969), *Songs of Love and Hate* (1971), *New Skin for the Old Ceremony* (1974). It's been downhill since then, "with the exception of the much-maligned 1979 album *Death of a Ladies Man*, rooted in the proto-rock bandstand hits of pre-Elvis dance halls."

Some of Cohen's later recordings may have been critical or popular successes "but they lacked the kind of rootedness of the earlier music, culminating in the recent disasters *Ten New Songs* and *Dear Heather*."

Asked about the influence of Buddhism on Cohen's work — he was a Zen monk for several years in California — Ravvin said it was a complicated factor and he had "no smart answer."

Advertised widely, Ravvin's talk drew a mostly adult general public audience, including many seniors. A few Concordia students did manage to squeeze into the small hall at the Religion annex on Mackay St. but several left due to the lack of space.

"We need a bigger venue," said Josa Alley, a Religion major and student coordinator of the series. It was meant to widen the array of Jewish issues on campus and attract students through alternative forms of learning.

Alley said a talk on the mystical tradition of Kabbalah also drew a packed house. The series, a brainchild of Ravvin's Institute and students, has also brought in guest speakers on women and on gender stereotyping.

Editor: Tomorrow night, CBC Radio 1 (88.5) is airing a program at 9 p.m. about a worldwide campaign to nominate Leonard Cohen for a Nobel Prize.

Zero-energy home is student's goal

Rémi Charron, a student in Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering, has won an award from the Canadian Council for Human Resources in the Environment Industry for his project on a zero-energy solar home.

A zero-energy solar home utilizes thermal and photovoltaic solar collectors to generate the energy required to run the house. Charron is looking at various international projects to promote low and zero energy homes and reviewing emerging technologies.

"It seemed like a perfect opportunity to both learn what other people are doing, and to generate interest in the research that I am doing."

The 2005 Student Awards for Environmental Excellence are given in recognition of the contribution of student research to environmental business. The five winners were chosen from 42 poster abstracts.

Each recipient gets \$1,000 and the opportunity to present research to environmental industry leaders at Americana, a biennial conference on environmental technologies going on this week at the Montreal Convention Centre.

Meanwhile, the only Canadian entry in the Solar Decathlon, taking place in Washington, D.C., will be on display on the Loyola Campus, starting tomorrow.

Dance 2005

Student works

April 14-16

Moyse Hall, 853 Sherbrooke St. W.
848-2424, ext. 4740

<http://dance.concordia.ca>

Fibres media encourage artists to express emotion

ROBERT WINTERS

The end of her relationship hit student Susan Wolf very hard, but instead of moping around after the painful breakup, she used her Fibres course to work through her feelings and deal with it in a positive way.

The result was a unique piece of artwork called *Guts*, which represents the gut-wrenching experience that Susan went through before she was able to "build a bridge to the next phase of my life."

Susan took bed sheets used by the couple and wrote on them letters exchanged during the breakdown of the relationship. She then tore the sheets into strips and twisted them to resemble parts of the digestive system.

"I was spilling my guts on the table," Susan said as she fingered the twisted fabric of her piece.

The project was enhanced by Susan's interest in anatomy and her background in medical anthropology, including a job as a research assistant at the Montreal Children's Hospital, where she worked with families with children in the intensive care ward.

When she broke up with her boyfriend, she quit her job "and decided to become an artist" by coming to study at Concordia.

Susan's piece was presented as part of *Stuff*, the Fibres Student Association's end-of-year show at the Belgo Building in



Susan Wolf spills her *Guts* in latest show by Fibres students.

downtown Montreal, which featured the work of 20 Fibres students in a juried exhibition.

The show presented work that covered a wide variety of materials and styles. Many of the pieces had strong conceptual content, in which the artist seeks to express compelling ideas and emotions in ways meant to cause a reaction in the viewer.

The work for the show was chosen by

Associate Professor Ingrid Bachmann, graduate student Andrea Vander Kooj, and Melissa Matos, the exhibition's organizer, who has led the student association this year.

Melissa said the variety of work chosen showed the diversity of work being done in the Fibres program, mainly because of the strong interdisciplinary approach students are encouraged to incorporate from their

other courses outside the Fibres area. "This diversity is what makes Fibres such an intimate yet exciting area," Matos said.

This interdisciplinary approach in Fibres is ideal for another artist in the show, Ed Janzen, who presented a large tablecloth featuring a U.S. aircraft carrier and its accompanying ships and planes.

"The size of the piece is intended to convey the scale of American military power," Janzen said. His work is meant to also remind viewers of the billions of poor people in the world who "are prevented from taking their seats" at the world's table.

Janzen is an Interdisciplinary Studies student in his first year at Concordia after studying medieval history at the University of Manitoba. He said he is drawn to fibres because the materials often are associated with "domesticity, celebration and softness." He can contrast them with his favourite themes of examining global structures in the military, political and economic spheres.

This contrast between the softness of textiles and the hard-edged themes being used increasingly by artists in this program could also be seen in work by Carla Benzan, co-director of the student-run VAV Gallery this year. Carla, a Painting and Drawing student, presented several large sculptures resembling internal organs that were suspended eerily at the entrance of the gallery.



Dessa Harhay, in her final year of a BFA, is seen above with her painting of an owl with animal legs. "Animals are interesting creatures, especially birds," said Harhay, who is in her final year of a double major in Studio Arts and Communication Studies. These hybrid animals "tap into the mythical and the imaginary" by combining images that usually are not seen together. "Some birds look ridiculous; they're so extravagant in nature. They almost seem surreal," said Dessa, whose "fabricated animals" are done with acrylic paint. Her hybrid animal series, which includes a leopard's feet placed on a crown pigeon and an owl with dog's feet, was shown at the Belgo Building.

Defiance from student leaders

SYLVAIN COMEAU

"The question is whether the government is listening. Well, when you consider that they're perfectly willing to force students into heavy debt by cutting loans and bursaries, it's clear that they simply don't care about youth. Anything else they say is just PR."

Against a backdrop of news reports of daily, sometimes disruptive and violent student protests, Fédération des étudiants universitaires du Québec (FEUQ) president Pier-André Bouchard opened a Concordia panel held March 22 on access to education by blasting apparent Quebec government apathy concerning the future leaders of this province.

"The most flagrant case is the loans and bursaries issue, but there are less well known examples, such as in the public service. The government has been reducing its workforce by attrition; they wait for people to retire, and then they replace just one out of two. The government is one of the biggest employers in Quebec; what are they telling young people when they refuse to hire many of us?"

Bouchard predicted that government apathy will spark the opposite reaction among disaffected youth.

"Youth don't vote right now — only 1 in 4 go to the ballot box — but if we keep taking body blows like we have lately, I think we will go out and vote, and tell the government that they just can't do this to us."

Arielle Reid, vice-president external for the Concordia Student Union, agreed. "The voices of students are not being heard; it's been a while since people took youth issues very seriously. The Charest government has played a dirty trick on us."

She said youth today are less involved in politics than in the past because of a feeling of isolation.

"It's important to get away from the ivory tower syndrome; we need to bring that ivory tower down to a workable level. We must infiltrate the youth wings of political parties and lobby groups. Even organizations like religious groups can be politicized. That's because everything we do is political, from the clothes we wear to the food we eat, not just how we vote."

Action Democratique du Quebec (ADQ) member Caroline Morgan said that much of the apparent neglect of youth comes down to cold, hard numbers.

"Youth are suffering from a numerical disadvantage vis a vis the baby boomers, in addition to a looming debt load which will be a greater and greater burden. I think the pressure on youth can be seen in such issues as suicide among youth, which is an alarming problem in Quebec, and the worst in Canada."

She urged youth to look for a brand of political activism which fits into their passions and their lives.

"We have to fight where we feel the most comfortable; you're never more convincing than when you're most convinced. It's true that in recent years, youth have been getting increasingly apathetic about politics, but that is where decisions are made. That is where you will make the most impact."

The panel was organized by students of the School of Community and Public Affairs.

Editor's note: The Concordia Student Union held an informal meeting yesterday to discuss the issue. A deal has been worked out between Education Minister Jean-Marc Fournier and student federations. It would see \$482 million invested in Quebec's bursary program over five years, but only \$70 million of that amount next year. The \$103 million bursary program will be re-established by 2006-07.



SIC show at VAV on HIV / AIDS

[SIC] is the name of an exhibition at the student-run VAV Gallery on René-Lévesque Blvd. that is one of the requirements of the interdisciplinary course HIV/AIDS: Cultural, Social, and Scientific Aspects of the Pandemic. The course started in 1993, and since then about 100 students have taken it. This year more than 200 students from across Canada are participating in the online version. The show is on at the VAV until April 9. *Riding the Dragon*, at left, is described as a "one-shot existential comic" by artist and third-year Film Studies student Patrick Lonergan.

Prolonged research enriches latest theatre production



Kate Bligh in rehearsal with student actors

BARBARA BLACK

Students in the Theatre Department have been working on their latest production for 10 months, an unusually long time. It is part of director Kate Bligh's intention to show

the students how academic research can be the starting point for creating a role.

Our Country's Good, by Timberlake Wertenbaker, is based on a novel by Thomas Kenneally, and on Australian and British history.

The story is about a shipload of British convicts transported to the wild shore of Australia in 1789. The ambitious young officer in charge of the penal colony decides to produce a play. The process teaches everyone, enforced actors and their jailers, some lessons for life.

The 11 student actors were cast in May, and given a summer reading list to familiarize them with the context of the play. The design students working on the production were also given research to do.

In the fall, the cast, plus three students working as dramaturges, took a class with Bligh to explore the geography, politics, philosophy, society and history of the play, and the acting techniques, physical characteristics and accents that would be used in performance.

Most of the characters in the play are convicts who were transported to Australia for small crimes, and Bligh wanted them to understand what it would be like to experience whipping, sexual degradation and hunger for, say, stealing a handkerchief.

Bligh said the long rehearsal time represents a new production model that more closely resembles the francophone model of a detailed, structured and lengthier preparation and rehearsal process.

"In Germany, Russia and Scandinavia, it's still not unusual for a play to be rehearsed for one or two years prior to public presentation. I once saw a production of *Macbeth* by the Schiller Company from Germany that took my breath away. It had been in rehearsal for three years."

Francophone actors are paid for performances rather than for rehearsals, so the rehearsal periods in Quebec tend to be stretched out over months to enable the actors

to earn money elsewhere at the same time.

"This allows for a lot more contemplation and individual development on the part of the actors. Some of the more fortunate companies, like Robert Lepage's *Deus Ex Machina* or *Carbone 14*, are able to pay their actors to be in rehearsal for months."

The English model of three or four weeks of rehearsals is inherited from the repertory system, where the actors would be on a seasonal salary, and be expected to know and perform many plays at the same time.

"This speed of preparation and turnover is feasible for fully trained, experienced professional artists who are familiar with the requirements of specific genres of performance," Bligh said. "But when the same model is applied to students or young actors, the resulting performances show them dealing mostly with stress and stamina and panic and allows precious little artistry to show through or be learned."

Bligh, who started her career in England, said she has worked with francophones in Montreal. "I was fortunate enough to witness the benefits of the extended process, and this is the case for some of my colleagues in the Theatre Department also."

"There is a sense in the department at the moment that it can improve the pedagogic and academic quality of the very resource-intensive productions we undertake. The *Our Country's Good* project is just one of a number of rehearsal models which are being employed."

Bligh added that the students have responded well, and their attendance and punctuality has been "just about perfect."

Our Country's Good, by Timberlake Wertenbaker, directed by Kate Bligh, runs until April 10 at the D.B. Clarke Theatre. For more information, see the Back Page.

Non-actors can take theatre courses, too

The Theatre Department offers courses for non-theatre students in acting, storytelling, production and design.

The series started with *Behind the Scenes* and *Introduction to Acting for Non-Acting Students*. Since 2000, students in more than 50 programs from throughout the university have enjoyed these courses.

Behind the Scenes

Behind the Scenes was developed by Philip Spensley to expose students to the Montreal theatre scene.

Alarey Alsip, an independent student, loved the experience.

"I had no idea what I was getting myself into, but truly I can say it has altered my life."

"It has also brought more out of me. I started feeling less shy around people. I started going to see the theatre more, too."

500 students

Introduction to Acting for Non-Theatre Students is even more popular. It was developed by Gene Gibbons and Bryan Doubt, and more than 500 Concordia students have taken it over the past three years.

Rene Hidalgo, a business gradu-

ate, said, "Intro to Acting may very well be the most important course you never thought to take."

"As a John Molson alumnus, I found that this class was the perfect balance to the corporate environment of my core classes. I may never pursue this field professionally, but it gave me a deep insight into who I am and what I really want in life."

Recent additions to these possibilities for non-theatre students include *Telling Tales*, a course in storytelling developed by director-playwright Lib Spry, and *Visual Aspects of Performance*, a course in theatrical space and kinetics developed by Gene Gibbons.

Gibbons said, "These courses give students poise and self-confidence, and make them more creative and tolerant."

"We also hope to make the public more aware of the arts and more supportive of arts programming in schools."

Summer section

A new summer section of *Introduction to Acting* has been added for summer 2005. Called TPER 201/1, it runs from May 30 to June 16.

You can get more information by contacting the department at 848-2424, ext. 4747.

Advice for aspiring creative writers



Panelists Nino Ricci and Carmine Starnino

Students had a chance to hear it straight from the horse's mouth on March 18, when the English Department held a "professional development day" for aspiring writers.

Creative writing professor Stephanie Bolster said afterwards that some were surprised to hear an agent say that manuscripts sent directly to a publisher do better than one might expect.

"These days, in fact, emerging writers may have more chance of publishing their manuscripts than mid-career writers whose books have sold modestly."

"Students may also have been surprised to hear the agent say that the best thing they can do for their future careers is to make their manuscript the best it can possibly be. Schmoozing, in short, is not the key to success."

The panel comprised Catherine Kidd, a well-

known spoken word artist (*Sea Peach*) and novelist (the forthcoming *Bestial Rooms*), award-winning novelist Nino Ricci (*Lives of the Saints*), novelist and playwright Mansel Robinson, and poet Carmine Stanino.

"Nino Ricci's confession that he enrolled in Concordia after W.O. Mitchell told him that he didn't have what it took to be a writer startled the crowd," Bolster said.

The event was well attended: about 50 students for the morning panel of successful alumni, and as many as 80 students for presentations by a magazine editor, an agent and a publisher.

Bolster reported, "Student interest was keen and feedback on the day has been extraordinarily positive, so we plan to hold a day of a similar nature next year."

Academic advisors share insights, experience

LINA SHOUMAROVA

"You are the personalization of what has become a depersonalized university experience." With these words Provost Martin Singer opened the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Conference, which took place in Montreal March 23 to 25.

To 280 academic advisors from universities and colleges from across northeast Canada and U.S., Singer delivered an inspiring speech about how universities make students believe in themselves and become better, more informed citizens.

In a more grave tone, he also spoke about the changes the university has undergone in the last quarter of a century. "They have sort of lost their way, in my opinion," he said. From an intimate, small-knit community, the university has become a corporatized environment and the students critical consumers. The challenge now is how to personalize education.

Advising is one of the ways. "The principle role of advising is to get students to believe in the power within," Singer said. Many of the advisors in the room nodded in agreement.

The conference offered 48 sessions on topics ranging from retention and academic success to advising undecided, Native and LGBT students.

Shoshana Kalfon, an academic counselor at Concordia, said exchanging of knowledge, ideas and experience "makes you feel that you are not alone."

Kalfon and her colleague Maria Ponte co-chaired the conference. During their



Academic counsellors Maria Ponte and Shoshana Kalfon

own presentation, they spoke about a recent reorganization in Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science.

In the spring of 2003, Singer, then Dean of the Faculty, created a Student Academic Services Unit that merged academic advisors and admission counsellors.

From two people doing advising and six people doing admissions for 37 departments, now eight people are doing both. Before the merger, both Kalfon and Ponte were academic advisors.

"We knew nothing about admissions, and we had to learn the rules and regula-

tions of the university," Ponte said.

The mandate of the new office is to guide students from admission to graduation. "The fact that they have a name is really important," Maria Ponte said.

Academic counsellors receive general requests related to undergraduate admissions and readmissions, grade changes, credit transfers and withdrawals. More than 3,000 students sought their help last year.

Still more students are expected to approach them this year. Right now, materials are being prepared: the unit's website

and a handbook with information about admission procedures, academic definitions, the Student Information Management System and more.

Advising starts with listening. "You have to be approachable, a people person, and students need to feel like they can tell you something," Kalfon said. Another crucial quality is knowledge of the university and student services.

Ponte and Kalfon continue to counsel students one-on-one, including giving advice over the phone or via e-mail. They love to tell stories about students they have helped successfully.

"Some of them send notes after graduation, and this is the most satisfying part of the job, to know that you have made a difference in somebody's life," Kalfon said.

Among the plaques on the wall in her office is one from NACADA honouring Kalfon with the academic advising excellence award for Canada for 2004. This year's prize recipient is also from Concordia: Sheri Kuit, undergraduate programs assistant in the Sociology and Anthropology Department.

Maria Ponte would like to see an introductory course for students who are about to enter the university. "Students are unprepared; they don't know what to expect from university life," she said.

The course would deal with such important issues as writing academic papers, doing research and plagiarism. Kalfon said, "It would give students the opportunity to meet their peers, to create small communities and to connect."

Irish women have major role in traditional music



Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin and flautist Jocelyn Haas on March 30.

LINA SHOUMAROVA

Irish singing and dancing are a lot older than *Riverdance*, but it has taken the feminism of the 20th century to give women their due.

Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin, a professor of Irish Studies at the University of Missouri-St-Louis, gave an illustrated talk on March 30 that traced women in traditional music "from kitchen cuaird to global stage."

"There has been a radical change in the role of women in the last 30 years, when Ireland became part of the larger European society," Ó hAllmhuráin said. As a result, there is now a "tremendous sense of egalitarianism between male and female Irish musicians."

Ó hAllmhuráin, who is a fourth-generation concertina player in the style of County Clare, performed two lively tunes

written by his grandmother, who was his first music teacher.

The concertina is like an accordion, and in Irish music, it became associated with the women who excelled at playing it. The kitchen, traditionally the women's domain, was where the family would gather and music would be made.

Ó hAllmhuráin also showed a documentary film, *For the Love of the Tune*, which presented Irish women musicians from various generations sharing their passion for music.

His lecture was organized by the Centre for Canadian Irish Studies at Concordia, which brings distinguished experts on Irish cultural life to Concordia.

Director Michael Kenneally says there are now nearly 40 students in Canadian Irish Studies programs.

Courses are increasing in number every year, and a total of \$16,000 in scholarships is available to graduate and undergraduate students.

Kenneally will give the keynote lecture at the annual conference of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies, which is meeting this year in June at the National University of Ireland, in Maynooth, near Dublin.

Next fall, the O'Brien Visiting Scholar will be Sean Farrell, a historian from Northern Illinois University, who will teach two courses. The Centre and the English Department's Writers Read series will bring Irish playwright, novelist and poet Sebastian Barry to give master classes and a public reading.

Teaching award

Congratulations to Professor Venkat Ramachandran, of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, who has been given the Honorary Teaching Excellence Award by the Engineering and Computer Science Council for Student Life.

The presentation was made on Saturday, March 12, at the students' annual banquet.

Alexander Shnirelman

continued from page 1

toughest problems that are left."

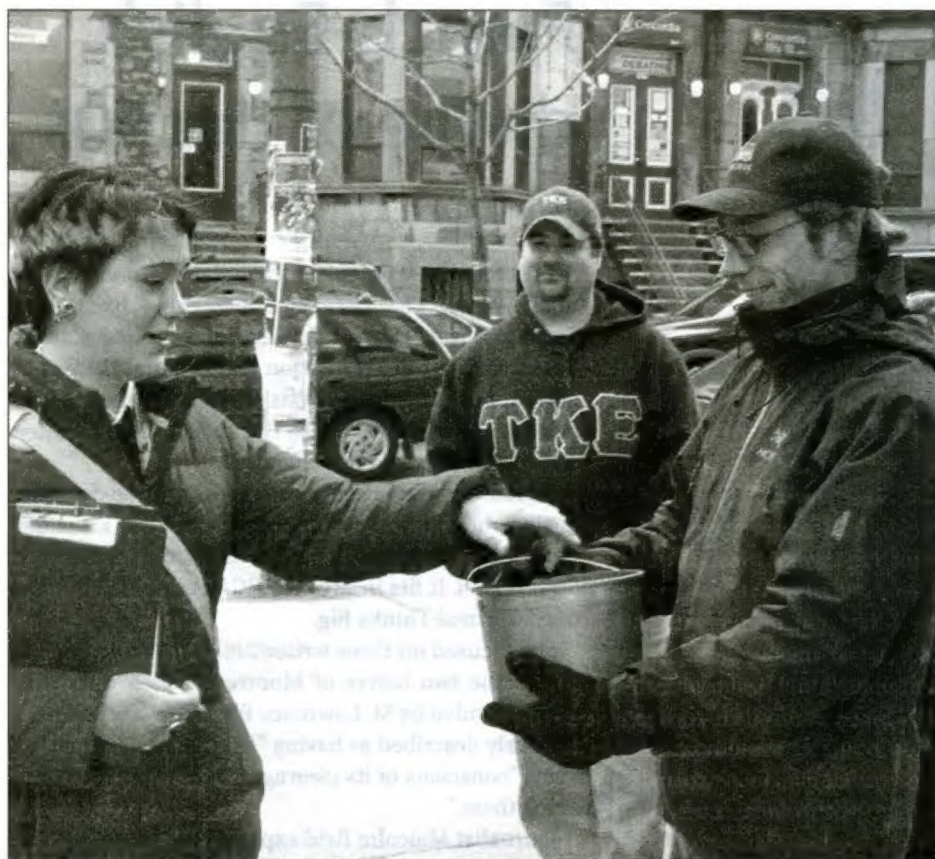
That is certainly true for the field that is his main interest: turbulence. Examples of turbulent fluids include water in oceans and rivers, blood pumping through the circulatory system, and molten iron at the core of the Earth.

Flow and the motion of viscous fluids are described by some differential equations, but they describe smooth, simple motion; none comes close to describing turbulent motion. "These may be the most difficult equations to solve in all of mathematics."

Another subject that interests him applies to the medical field, and has to do with understanding what happens to cartilage — the plastic-like material that gives the human nose its shape, for example — when it is heated and transforms in shape.

Sometimes doctors treat cartilage with lasers to reshape it, although they do not have a good understanding of why this complex biological material behaves the way it does. Shnirelman hopes mathematics can provide some answers.

Tekes rattle the bucket Gospel oratorio rocks



Above, Brent Gerchicobb, Francis Théorêt (with bucket) and Gregory Goutier (out of sight) get a donation from an unidentified passerby. Every year the brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity spent a night and more outdoors in a box outside the Hall Building to raise funds for muscular dystrophy. This year they were joined by Veronique Borja, a staff member from Conference Services. Conference Services and the Loyola Printing Area helped out, too. The organizer was Kevin Harrison, a Concordia grad who is the coordinator of Muscular Dystrophy of Canada.

Gospel at Colonus at Concert Hall: A student production of the oratorio *The Gospel at Colonus* opened last night and runs until Saturday at the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall under the direction of Jeri Brown. Seen above, the cast in rehearsal; Jenny Larivière is at the mike. *The Gospel at Colonus* is an oratorio set in a black Pentecostal service, in which Greek myth replaces the Bible story. It's an exuberant mix of American gospel, jazz, rock and popular music. For more on the production, see CTR, March 17. For tickets, please see the Back Page of this issue.

Trip to Vietnam was a life-changing event

BARBARA BLACK

When film production student Hong An Nguyen went to Vietnam during the December break to make a documentary about his parents' generation, he got more adventure than he bargained for.

While he was there, he heard about the earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean on Dec. 26, and he went to Thailand to help in the relief effort. Before he left Vietnam, however, he sent an emotional e-mail message to his friends and colleagues through his professor, Peter Rist, about a woman he met on the beach in Quang Dong province.

Hong was about to take a sightseeing boat to see some caves when a local woman approached him, carrying a small camera. She asked him whether she could take pictures of him for a dollar each. When he politely refused, she burst into tears, and told him her story, which Hong related in his e-mail.

"Her name is Liu. She is 35 years old. She has five children; the younger is two, the oldest is 17. Her annual income is about \$70 US per year. Liu and her family don't eat any meat because it is too expensive, except for the holidays. Obviously, her children don't go to school; they work every day on the farm with their father to grow the vegetables they need to survive.

"Each day, Liu wakes up at 4 a.m. and rides her bike for two hours to the city to borrow a photo camera from a rich family. She then goes back to the mountains, waiting for tourists to take the boat to visit the caves. She asks them if they wanted pictures; most of the time, they refuse. Half of the money she earns goes to the government; she makes about 50 cents a picture for herself.

"Liu sells about 10 to 12 photos a month, making her monthly income about \$5 or \$6. Once she's taken the pictures, she gets off the boat, puts the camera in her bag, swims back to the riverside, rides her bike to the photo lab and gets the film developed before the tourists come back to the riverside.

"This year, Liu's husband and her oldest son travelled to Thailand to work in a hotel so that they could have a good meal for the holidays. He was supposed to come back before Christmas so that they could eat together. Since

the earthquake, Liu hasn't been able to contact them. They were working on the small island of Phi Phi, where about 1,500 (to date) people have died because of the tsunami.

"I travelled with Liu to her house, where I met her four children. They are skin and bones. I dug into my pockets to find two remaining \$20 bills, an amount she would have made after seven months of work. It broke my heart to see with my own eyes people living in such condition. No one on earth should be treated this way.

"If Liu lost her husband, that would be equal to a death sentence to her. Right now I am making the necessary contacts to try to find him." Hong's e-mail ended with an appeal for financial help for them and other tsunami victims.

Hong went to Banda Aceh and worked as long as he was allowed, six days, in a refugee camp of 6,200 people. When he got back to Vietnam, he reported on Liu's situation to his uncle in Saigon, who knew who to call, and he was assured that the family would get the assistance they needed.

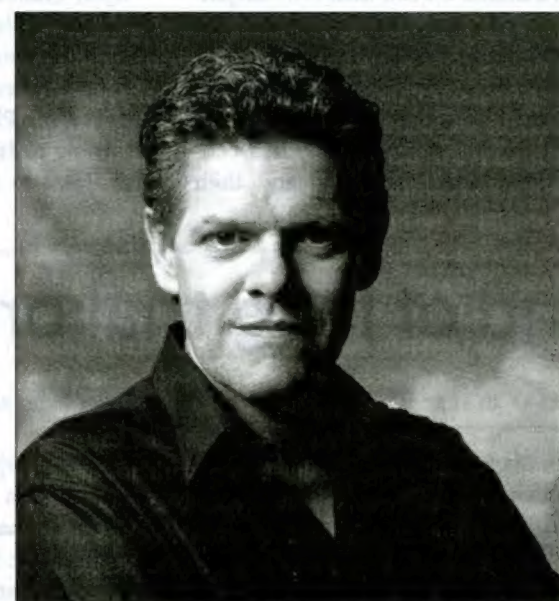
His appeal to his friends in Canada was effective. "Most of my friends responded, and told me they will or have already donated something for the tsunami victims," he said recently.

"I also got a lot of e-mails from people I don't know, people who were deeply touched, including a woman who told me she was planning a trip to Vietnam because of my e-mail. I was very happy that people responded to me through their emotions."

Hong didn't start film school to make documentaries: "I was more concerned about aesthetics than content. But my voyage to Vietnam has somehow changed the way I see things. I met people on the road who absolutely wanted to tell the story of their life on camera; most of them had fantastic anecdotes. Through them I discovered a society still affected by a war that ended 30 years ago."

Hong wants to go back to Vietnam and get some more footage. "I discovered that I can learn much more, not only about the subject being documented, but also about many technical aspects of filmmaking. I am also developing a fiction film on the assimilation of immigrants in Western society."

Rémi Bolduc at Club Soda



Alto saxophonist Rémi Bolduc, who teaches in the Music Department, is playing two concerts at Club Soda, 1225 St. Lawrence Blvd. The first, April 14, is with pianist Lorraine Desmarais and Le Big Band, and the second, April 26, features the Rémi Bolduc Jazz Ensemble, with saxophonist Seamus Blake and guitarist Ben Monder.

Symposium on discourse

A daylong symposium under the title Democratic Discourse in a Multicultural Society was held Sunday, April 3, in the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex on the Loyola Campus.

The keynote speaker was Howard Adelman, a professor of philosophy at York University, in Toronto. He was the founder of York's Centre for Refugee Studies and is associate editor of the *Encyclopedia of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity*.

Sessions were held under the titles Dialogue on Campus, Media Responsibility, and Courage to Care.

The event was co-hosted by the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies at Concordia and Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University, and included a tour of the exhibit Visas for Life, which celebrated the role of diplomats in Europe to saving victims of the Nazis.

Air India disaster hit Concordia hard



An interfaith service was held for the victims of the Air India disaster on June 28, 1985 in the D.B. Clarke Theatre, and after the ceremony, people were invited to sign a book dedicated to the ones who died. These photos appeared in the *Thursday Report* issue dated Aug. 29, 1985, and were supplied by University Archives.

BARBARA BLACK

The recent court decision in the Air India bombing, which remains Canada's worst mass murder, prompted University Archivist Nancy Marrelli to send *CTR* material from that terrible event 20 years ago.

On March 17, two men were acquitted of conspiracy and murder in the 1985 bombing of Air India Flight 182, which blew up near the coast of Ireland, killing everyone on board.

Of the 329 victims, many had connections with Concordia, and their

loss was marked by a memorial service at the university. A news release issued June 28, 1985, five days after the event, lists those who lost their lives. They were:

Balvir Singh, a 46-year-old professor of economics, with his wife, two-year-old daughters and a son.

Gyan Chandra Upreti, 44, who was replacing a physics professor on sabbatical. He died with his wife and son.

Nish Mukerji, 51, who had just received his PhD in physics and was returning to India with his wife for a visit. He also taught at Loyola High

School.

Sukavanam Venkatesan, 32, had just got his Master's in Electrical Engineering, and died with his wife.

Brij Srivastava, 40, was doing a doctorate in Building Engineering.

Also on the flight were the wife, two children and mother-in-law of Mahesh Sharma, a lecturer in the Faculty of Commerce and Administration, who had just won a teaching award.

Michael Chatlani, a 19-year-old engineering student, lost his mother, sister and brother.

End of long trial brings back memories

BARBARA BLACK

Eisha Marjara knew the evidence was circumstantial and thought she was prepared for the verdict in the drawn-out Air India trial, "but when the result came out, I was totally unprepared and numb with shock."

"The acquittal triggered a queer revisit into the past, back to the summer of 1985 when the bombing took place. In just a matter of days, the shock and disbelief, the frenzy of flying to Ireland to identify the bodies, the rapid assembly-line funeral ceremony in Dublin, followed by a return home to a dead silence, all came back."

Marjara was a 19-year-old Communication Studies student that spring. She was in hospital, and had been given a weekend pass to attend her younger sister's high school graduation and say goodbye to her and her mother, who were flying to India.

"The morning after their departure, my father and I discovered from news reports that the plane they were on 'had crashed' off the coast of Ireland. It was only much later we discovered that the plane had actually exploded as a result of a bomb." Eisha, her father

and her older sister were left to mourn their loss.

In 1994 Marjara was selected by the National Film Board's Fast Forward Program to make a film on the theme of the disaster. She recalls the next five years as "an arduous journey, riddled with script and structural problems, technical complications and necessary emotional breakdowns."

"I made several research trips, one to India, one to my hometown in Trois-Rivières, accumulated loads of material and tackled a script, but to no avail: it became a desperate search for a story."

"Almost three years later, I had a breakthrough, [but] I didn't begin scriptwriting until I was in the editing room where the film was pieced together."

The film was called *Desperately Seeking Helen*. In it, she goes back to India to search for a film idol from her childhood in the glittering world of Bollywood cinema.

"Helen is a conduit into my childhood — my relationship with my mother, my struggle with anorexia and the Air India disaster which took the lives of my mother and sister."

Marjara's film professor was delighted by her innovative treatment of the subject, and her family were proud.

"Many of my friends had worked in the film, including a former Concordia student, Kathy Sperberg, and Sydney Chen, who was a student of professor Iain Cook in the Sound III class."

The film got a lot of attention from the media when it was released in 1999. Marjara's worries about mixing her own intensely personal story with references to commercial Indian cinema, with its extravagant use of melodrama, fantasy and camp, proved needless.

Now she is following the aftermath of the Air India verdict. "I hope that if an appeal does not take place, then a public inquiry will."

She was pleased by the support for the victims' families from the public and the media during the long trial.

"I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to make a film to keep the victims' memory alive."

Marjara is still a filmmaker. She is currently finishing a short drama she shot in Germany, writing a feature film script, and developing a documentary for the NFB.

Sherry Simon on French-English divide of the 60s

BARBARA BLACK

Sherry Simon was a cultural scholar at Concordia for many years. Last weekend she came back from Toronto's York University, where she is the Canada Research Chair in Translation and Cultural History, to give a penetrating analysis of Montreal's French-English divide in the 1960s. Her talk showed by inference just how much has changed.

Simon was the keynote speaker at a three-day symposium held jointly by Concordia and the Canadian Centre for Architecture under the title *Montreal at Street Level*. It fits in with the CCA's current show, *The 60s: Montreal Thinks Big*.

She focused on three writers, each of whom tried to bridge the two halves of Montreal, which were then rigidly divided by St. Lawrence Blvd. The city had been variously described as having "frontiers of distrust," of being "conscious of its cleavages, and intent on sharpening them."

Journalist Malcolm Reid explored the gritty east end of Montreal with delight, learning local jargon and hanging out with young Quebec nationalists. His book, *The Shouting Signpainters*, showed English-speaking Canadians, even English-speaking Montrealers, a side of the city that was quite foreign to them.

Jean Forêt wrote *Le mur de Berlin P.Q.* as a tragicomic complaint about how French and English seemed to be inextricably mixed. No matter where he turned, Quebec French was polluted by anglicisms.

F.R. Scott, the poet and constitutional lawyer, was ahead of his time as an English-speaking intellectual because he dared to invite French-speaking intellectuals to visit him in west-end Montreal. Moreover, Simon said, he translated Quebec poets in a highly literal way that was not appreciated at the time, but influenced the next generation of translators.

Some in Simon's audience asked her where immigrants fitted into the English-French political divide. The answer, she said, was that they didn't. They were considered by Quebec nationalists to be English, and were therefore invisible as a separate group.

Simon's lecture started a three-day exploration of the "material, visual and spatial culture of the 1960s" in this city. Prominent in the discussion was Expo 67, the summer-long world's fair, which had a profound effect on Montreal and the rest of Canada.

The colloquium was organized by Johanne Sloan (Art History) and Rhona Richman Kenneally (Design & Computation Art).

Course offered on late pope

Donald Boisvert reports that the Department of Religion will offer a course next year on John Paul II. Although the pope died on April 2, he said, "this had been planned some months back as part of our general course offerings for 2005/06. I will be teaching it in the winter 2006 term."

The course is listed as Religion 325/4 — Leaders, Rebels and Saints: Religious Personalities, Special Topic: Pope John Paul II. It is described this way:

"Historians have begun to assess the legacy of Pope John Paul II. As official leader of the world's largest Christian denomination, he has exerted a remarkable influence on contemporary Roman Catholicism."

"In addition, he has been a major player on the world scene, and many have turned to him as one of the more universal of spiritual leaders today."

"While grounded in the biographical facts of the Pope's life, this course will look critically at his writings and acts, attempting to discern the meaning of his role and influence in shaping not only Catholicism, but also some of the major world events of the recent past."

MBA's discuss beer merger



"Brewing a Merger: Can Molson-Coors Revitalize a Sagging Beer Market?" was the topic of the latest in the MBA Speaker Series, held on April 1. Above, Maria Karounis, a vice-president of the John Molson MBA Society, flanked by the speakers, Andrew T. Molson (left), a Montreal consultant with National Public Relations who is a member of the board of directors of Molson Coors Brewing Co. and vice-president of the Molson Foundation, and Kevin Boyce, president and CEO of Molson Canada and a Concordia BComm (1977).

Kids carry on camping at Concordia

JOHN AUSTEN

The hugely successful Concordia Junior Stingers Summer Sports Program has a new look this year, as local children age seven to 16 can now participate in soccer, football — and bicycle safety.

The program provides a unique opportunity for children to learn, participate and discover the shared passion of sport.

Women's hockey coach Les Lawton, who is the director of the camp, says the format is a little different.

"We had an all-sports program before, but we decided it would make sense to streamline things to maximize our strengths," he said. "We now are sports-specific, and the kids and teenagers in our community can really benefit from that."

In previous years, Concordia had to rent space from outside the university to handle all the activities offered. Now, everything takes place at the Loyola Campus.

There are three weekly sessions for soccer (July 4-8, 11-15 and 18-22). Football, which includes an overnight option, takes place June 27 to July 1. The bicycle safety program will be offered around the same time.

"We'll have seminars on bike safety for the kids and their parents," Lawton said. "This is extremely important for young people, because almost everybody rides a bike."

Care and maintenance of a bicycle will be part of

the program, as will safety aspects such as rules of the road and proper gear.

"This camp has many purposes but community outreach is certainly a big one," Lawton said. "What's also great is that it's the Concordia coaches, staff and students who are teaching the kids."

The camps will feature an on-site athletic therapist, before and after camp care, an easy pick-up and drop-off location, and Concordia's state-of-the-art playing fields and other facilities.

The soccer program will be run by the coaches of the women's soccer team. The sport's simplicity and beauty has made it the top recreational activity for Canadian youngsters from coast to coast.

Sessions will include ball control, shooting, striking, goalkeeping, defending and passing. There will be many mini games played so that the youngsters can practise their newly found skills. More than 60 kids are expected to sign up for the sessions.

More than 100 participants are likely to sign up for football. Stinger coach Gerry McGrath and his crew will be instructing kids from all over the province at this week-long camp.

"All the programs are designed to make the sports both fun and educational for the children and teens," Lawton said. "The key is that we have qualified personnel who enjoy what they do. As the father of four kids, I know how important it is to make the atmosphere enjoyable."

For information on the Junior Stingers Summer Sports Program, call 848-2424 (ext. 3859).

Profetic est en anglais aussi

Profetic, a website for Quebec researchers at profetic.org/en, is now in English as well as French. This means that many more universities around the world will have access to information about new educational technologies in higher education.

Profetic (TIC is the acronym in French for information technology) was created in 2000 by CRE-PUQ, the federation of Quebec

universities.

The site features a database of more than 750 resources, thematically classified and regularly update; short descriptions help users find specialized sites. New publications, calls for papers and contests, short articles and a link to a relevant journal are also offered.

In 2003, the Profetic group decided to use free software and

comply with Web standards. The site is produced with SPIP, which was developed by volunteer programmers based mainly in France.

Profetic users are invited to submit news about their universities or articles on projects or practices involving information and communications technologies in higher education.

Stingers roundup

JOHN AUSTEN

Concordia hoopsters complete great season-long run

You always want to win your last game. More often than not, that means some sort of championship win. The Concordia men's basketball team fell just one game short of their goal when they lost 68-48 to the No. 1-ranked Carleton Ravens in the CIS National Championship March 20 in Halifax.

Despite the loss the Stingers can hold their heads high - their silver medal a testament to a terrific season of basketball. After all, NO ONE beats Carleton.

The last time the Ravens lost a game most of Concordia's players were back in high school. Carleton has now won three straight national titles.

"That's a heck of a team over there," said Concordia head coach John Dore of his opponents. "I'm extremely proud of our guys for their great season and representing their school so well at the Nationals."

The No. 2-seeded Stingers, who finished first in the Quebec league play upsetting their nemesis from Laval in the process, defeated the 10th-seeded Saint Mary's Huskies 87-58 to open up play in the quarterfinals. The next day, the team followed up with an impressive 59-46 semifinal victory over the Brock Badgers, a big team that entered the nationals as the No. 3 seed.

On Sunday, before a pro-Concordia crowd of 5,359, the Stingers lost the championship and were outplayed for most of the way. It was the 78th consecutive win in regular season and playoffs for the Ravens.

Despite a quick start by the Stingers, Carleton started sinking one three-pointer after another and took the lead for good five minutes into the game. The score was 39-31 at halftime. The Ravens tallied a whopping 10 three-pointers in the first half and had 15 by the end of the game. They shot 53.2 per cent on the game, including 50 per cent from three-point range.

Third-year forward Patrick Perrotte was the leading scorer on the Stingers with 17 points and five rebounds. He was named the Concordia player of the game. Forward Ben Sormonte also chipped in with 14 points and five rebounds.

Perrotte and Sormonte, who had a lot of people talking after he hauled in 18 rebounds in the Brock matchup, were both named to the Final 10 all-star team.

Langlois an All-Canadian

Point guard and Concordia men's basketball team captain Phil Langlois was named a first team all-Canadian by Canadian University Sports late last month.

Langlois, a fifth-year senior from Varennes, is just the third first team all-Canadian in Concordia history and the first since guard Dexter John in 1992-93.

He is among the national leaders in several categories. He's No. 1 in steals with 3.44 a game, No. 2 in assists with 7.81 a game and No. 2 in free throw shooting at 90 per cent.

The Sociology major was named the outstanding player in the Quebec conference. He is a four-time QSSF all-star. He was also an honorable mention all-Canadian in 2004.

Spin your wheels at the Tour de l'Île

For the third year, a Colours of Concordia Team will participate in the Tour de l'Île, a 48-km bicycle ride around Montreal. The tour will take place on Sunday, June 5.

The event celebrates cultural diversity. Last year, it brought together cyclists from 44 countries.

In the spirit of the event, Concordia's team will raise money for a new John Molson School of Business Scholarship for a student who has demonstrated a commitment in doing volunteer work that brings greater understanding between cultures.

The \$20 entry fee includes a Colours of Concordia T-shirt with the names of participating countries on the back, the right to join a picnic on Mount Royal, and a contribution of \$1 to the scholarship fund. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate and to bring their families and friends along.

For further details on how to register, contact Mona Sénécal at 848-2424, ext. 2721 or drop by GM-201.



the

backpage

April 7 - April 21

Events, notices and classified ads must reach the Internal Relations Department (BC-120) no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, the week prior to the Thursday publication. They can be submitted by e-mail (ctr@alcor.concordia.ca) with the subject heading *classified ad*. For more information, please contact Lina Shoumarova at 848-2424 ext. 4579.

Art

Décalage

April 8-24. 31 visual artists from Concordia's MFA program will take over the Parisian Laundry Building, 3550 St. Antoine West. This exhibition will include media and sound projects, film projections and performance as well as installation, painting, drawing, print, photography and sculpture work.

Vernissage: April 7, 5-7 p.m. That same night, six finishing MFA students will showcase their separate thesis projects to the general public for the first time on the second floor. This presentation will run parallel to Décalage. Viewing hours at the gallery: noon-5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. For more details call 489-9254.

VAV Gallery

Student-run gallery in the Visual Arts Building, 1395 René Lévesque W. <http://www.vavgallery.com>

[sic]. **Until April 9.** An interdisciplinary art exhibition reflecting upon representations and metaphors of HIV/AIDS as global pandemic, illness, and being sick.

Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery

Open Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. LB-165. Free admission, wheelchair accessible. Info at ext. 4750. ellengallery.concordia.ca
TRACKING THE TRACES. Until April 9. Curator: Nicole Gingras. This exhibit draws attention to the act of listening. It brings together diverse works: kinetic and sound installations, video, collection of artifacts, works on CD and live performances.

Visas For Life Exhibit

VISAS FOR LIFE: THE RIGHTeous & HONOURABLE DIPLOMATS tells the story of heroic diplomats who served in Nazi occupied countries during the chaotic days of WWII. The exhibit goes on **until April 11**, at the Richard J. Renaud Science Complex, Loyola.

Oscar Peterson Concert Hall

Located at 7141 Sherbrooke W. Box office: Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., ext. 4848. For the full listing of events, visit <http://oscar.concordia.ca>. Tickets for all of the following events will be sold at the door only: \$5 general admission, free for students with ID.

THE GOSPEL AT COLONUS. April 6-8 at 8 p.m. Students directed by Jeri Brown. Adapted by Lee Breuer, music composed and arranged by Bob Telson.

MENOTTI'S THE MEDIUM. April 13 at 8 p.m. A student performance of the opera *The Medium* by Gian Carlo Menotti. Stage direction: Kara Charland, Musical Direction: Valerie Kinslow.

INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE. April 16 at 7:30 p.m. An evening of South Indian classical dance, with live traditional accompaniment. Admission is free of charge.

THE BOZZINI QUARTET AND BRADYWORKS. April 17, 8 p.m. Performing works by composition students of Roddy Elias, John Winiazar, Rosemary Mountain, and John Plant.

SOONAK CHOE, PIANO. April 18, 8 p.m. Student of Gregory Chavardian, works by R. Schumann and W.A. Mozart.

AMELIE BRODEUR, FLUTE. April 19, 8 p.m. Student of Guy Pelletier, works by Olivier Messiaen, Mauricio Kagel, Denis Gougeon and George Crumb.

MYRTLE THOMAS, FLUTE. April 21 at 8 p.m. Student of Guy Pelletier, works by George Philip Telemann, Robert Muczynski, Luciano Berio and Sergei Prokofiev.

Meetings and Events

The Department of Theatre Presents

OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD. A play by Timberlake Wertenbaker, directed by Kate Blight. Australia, 1789: with dwindling resources and a dying population, a penal colony puts on a play to celebrate the birthday of its king who lives half a world away... Performance dates: **April 7, 8 and 9 at 8 p.m. and April 9 and 10 at 2 p.m.** At the D.B. Clarke Theatre, SGW. For tickets, call ext. 4742.

Montreal Inter-University Seminar

• On **April 7 at 4:10 p.m.**, David Eagleman, a Neuroscientist at the University of Texas, will speak on the topic of **TIME AND THE BRAIN: THE SPEEDING AND SLOWING OF SUBJECTIVE TIME AND ILLUSORY REVERSALS OF PERCEIVED ORDER**. In the Science Pavilion, Room: SP 110. Contact ext. 2220 for further details.

• The next day, **April 8**, prof. Eagleman will present **TEN UNSOLVED QUESTIONS OF NEUROSCIENCE**. Topics include memory, sleep, consciousness, information in neural activity, emotions, plasticity, intelligence, and several others. **At 10 a.m.** in the Science Pavilion, Room: SP 365.01, Loyola. More information at ext. 2595.

The Tannahill Weavers in Concert

One of Scotland's best traditional bands will be in Montreal for one night only, on **April 12**, at the Sala Rosa, 4848 St. Laurent Blvd. From a capella ballads with breathtaking harmonies, to hard-driving Gaelic battle tunes, this band has stunning vocals, and the best guitar, pipes, fiddle, bodhran, bouzouki, and flute players. **At 7 p.m.** Tickets: \$20. For more info contact Tara Hecksher at 481-7408, ext. 231.

Dance Performance 2005

The Department of Contemporary Dance invites you to the performances of student works on **April 14, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. and April 16 at 2:30 p.m.** At Moyse Hall, McGill University, 853 Sherbrooke St. W. Tickets will be sold at the door only: \$10 general admission, \$5 for students. For more information: ext. 4740 or e-mail: dance@concordia.ca

Concordia Toastmasters Club

Master skills to formulate and express your ideas, improve your ability to listen and evaluate other people's ideas. Monday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Susan at 637-0190 or login at www.angelfire.com/co/TOASTM

Tickets for Cirque du soleil

The Concordia University Alumni Association invites you to explore the world of dreams at the Cirque du Soleil's newest touring show. Purchase tickets from the CUAA for \$120 (\$25 tax receipt) and support the Concordia Alumni Endowment Fund. The show will be held under the Cirque du Soleil Big Top at the Old Port of Montreal on **April 29 at 8 p.m.** For more information visit <http://alumni.concordia.ca/calendar/cuaa/> or call ext. 4397.

Lectures and Conferences

John Molson School of Business Visiting Speaker Series
Christopher Worley, professor of Business Strategy at the Pepperdine University, will speak on the topic **BUILT TO CHANGE: A LOOK AT THE FUTURE OF ORGANIZATIONS AND O.D.** On **April 7, 2-4 p.m.** in the Guy Metro Building, Room GM 403-02.

Interdisciplinary Lectures and Symposia on Society and Culture

The final speaker in the series, prof. Julie Thompson Klein from Wayne State University, Detroit, will present the lecture **INTERDISCIPLINARITY, HUMANITIES, AND CULTURE: THE CHANGING ACADEMY**. Dr. Klein will survey the shifts that have stimulated new theory, practice, and institutional forms of interdisciplinarity. On **April 7, 7:30-9:30 p.m.** at the Atrium Hall of the Saidye Bronfman Building, corner of Dr. Penfield and Côte-des-Neiges.

IITS Computer Workshops

Register for all workshops on the IITS Web site at iits.concordia.ca/services/training. All workshops are free of charge for Concordia faculty, staff and students. They take place in the Learning Centre, H443.
• Excel II - **April 8 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**
• Dreamweaver I - **April 11 and 22, 10a.m.-12:30p.m.**
• Protecting Your Computer - **April 18, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**
• Dreamweaver II - **April 25, May 9, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**
• Access II - **April 29 and May 16, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

University of the Streets Café

Open to anyone and everyone, the Café sessions take place in both French and English. For details and a full list of events: <http://univcafe.concordia.ca/html/home.html> or contact Eric Abitbol at ext. 3967.
PERSONAL CHOICE AND THE FOOD SYSTEM: WHY DO WE EAT WHAT WE EAT? Part of the Power of Food series. Moderator: Gerardo Sierra. On **April 14, 2-4 p.m.**, in the NDG Food

Depot, 2121 Oxford, corner de Maisonneuve. 483-6346.

Centre for Teaching & Learning Services

CTLs organizes a series of workshops for faculty and teaching assistants to enhance their teaching skills. For a full list of workshops and for registration, call ext. 2495 or visit: www.concordia.ca/ctls/workshop

Standard American Speech for Non-Native Speakers

April 19, 7-10 p.m. in AD 308, Loyola. This workshop is designed to help non-native speakers hear the sounds and stress patterns of English, and to practice voice exercises that will free up these sounds. Participants should bring along a text they will be using in the classroom. Facilitator: Nancy Helms, Theatre.

Counselling & Development

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre helps all Concordia students achieve their goals by providing access to programs and activities aimed at promoting academic and personal success. Drop in - no appointment necessary. SGW - H 481, LDY - AD 103-9.

Self-help and Support

Peer Support Program

Stressed about assignments? Frantic about finances? Emotional worries? The Peer Support Program is open! We are students who are here for other students to listen, give information and refer! Downtown: Monday - Thursday, 11 am-5pm., Annex Z (2090 Mackay), Room 05. Loyola: Tuesdays, 11am - 5 pm, Guadagni Lounge. Drop in and check us out! Or phone 848-2424, ext. 2859.

Mature Student Mentor Program

Advice about school, referrals, or a friendly ear. New mature students can meet with a CMS mentor one-on-one throughout the year, by appointment or on a drop-in basis. Contact Brigeen Badour or Nelly Trakas at ext. 3890.

Employee Assistance Program

A voluntary, confidential counselling and information service available 24/7 to all employees eligible for health benefits at Concordia, including their immediate family. English Services: 1-800-361-4765. French Services: 1-800-387-5676. Visit the EAP web site at: eap.concordia.ca

Art Therapy

For people experiencing depression, anxiety, anger, loss, relationship difficulties. Humanistic / psychodynamic approach. Contact Beverly at 989-2270.

Frontier College: Students for Literacy - Concordia

This non-profit organization is recruiting volunteer tutors to work with children and adults in various community centres in Montreal. Call ext. 7454 or e-mail stu4litr@alcor.concordia.ca to receive more details and to register for an orientation/training session.

Methylphenidate (Ritalin) Adult Users Needed

To complete confidential interviews and questionnaires in the Psychology Department at McGill University. All participants will be compensated. Contact 398-6119 or mcgilldrugresearch@hotmail.com for further information.

Hypnosis Group

Individual searching for others interested in forming a casual hypnosis practice group. More info at: innerworkingscentral.com/html/montreal_hypnosis.html

OCD Research

The Fear and Anxiety Disorders lab in the Department of Psychology is looking for participants for a study that examines compulsive checking. If you repeatedly check things like appliances, the stove, door locks or faucets more than one hour a day contact Stefanie at 848-2424, ext. 2199.

Multi-Faith Chaplaincy

MOTHER HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD: Great vegan food, excellent company and engaging conversations, all for a loony or

two. Thursdays 5 to 7 p.m. Annex Z, Room 05. Ellie Hummel, ext. 3590.

OUTREACH EXPERIENCE - A PROGRAM OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE. Volunteer opportunities include placements with the elderly, youth, and the homeless and other marginalized members of the Montreal community. Contact Michelina Bertone SSA, ext. 3591, mbertone@alcor.concordia.ca

SCHEDULE OF EUCHARIST (ROMAN CATHOLIC) IN THE LOYOLA CHAPEL: Sundays at 5 p.m., Mon.-Wed. at 12:05 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. Communion at 12:05 p.m.

CPR Courses

Courses are offered monthly through the Concordia University Environmental Health and Safety Office. For more information and prices call ext. 4877. All courses are recognized by the Quebec Heart and Stroke Foundation. www.concordia.ca/ehs

Language Services

Translation, proofreading

Master's student from France offers her expertise and care to help you with your translations and proofreading. \$20/hour. Contact kathleenolivier@yahoo.com

Research paper/essay assistance

Concordia PhD grad will help edit your essays and research papers for clear expression, spelling, punctuation and grammar. Reasonable rates. Call Higher Grades at 409-2122.

Word processing

Tape transcription, term papers, manuscripts, CVs. Near Atwater & Souvenir. Call Carole at 937-8495.

Math tutors wanted

We are looking for math students to tutor at primary and secondary levels. Send your CV at courses@serviphil.com with a copy to annie@serviphil.com. Call 684-1469.

Japanese to English translator needed

For translation of magazine articles from the 1940s and 50s. Good written English is required. Send a CV and a writing sample to Catherine Russell, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema, FB 319.

Résumés

First impressions last. With more employers accessible solely by email, we help you separate from the pack with an amazing online resume delivery system. Contact dwayne@icaboodlesites.net for details.

Custom résumés

By former college English teacher. Cheapest rates in town. Word processing, editing, audio transcription, basic graphic design. Sacha, 594-6136, customresumes@gmail.com

Seeking a job overseas?

Concordia graduate will prepare your resume and coach you in finding the ideal overseas assignment. Over 10 years of experience in various international organisations. Call for one-on-one consultation: 915-3201.

Editing, proofreading

Concordia graduate, experienced in tutoring of students from different cultural backgrounds. Translation from French to English. Price is negotiable and particular attention is given to each student. Call 223-3489, 606-6222, or e-mail biancageo@yahoo.com

Study Italian in Florence, June 2005

In a private school. 7 levels of Italian offered. Other classes also available May 28-June 25. \$1,600. Package includes 4 weeks accommodations and registration fees. Contact Josee Di Sano at 488-1778. studyitalian@hotmail.com

Experienced English tutor

Need help with your pronunciation, conversation skills, grammar? Let us help you meet your English goals. aprilreding@hotmail.com

Math, physics, and science tutor

Physics graduate with 7 yrs. tutoring experience available for ALL levels. 10\$/hr. Call 862-2189.

Seeking Translators for Public Conversations

The University of the Streets Café seeks volunteer translators who would land their skills during the public sessions as well as for the text that goes on the Café's website, flyers and other documents. If interested, contact imcdforum@yahoo.ca, univcafe@yahoo.ca or call ext. 3967.

Apartments

Apartment for rent

Charming, new, sunny. Conveniently located, Parc metro, view of Mt. Royal. Wood floors, semi-open kitchen, 5 appl., A/C, quality finishings, balcony, indoor parking. \$1150/month. 762-2186.

Apartment for sublet

In NDG, Harvard Ave., near metro and Loyola, sunny, warm 7 1/2 lower duplex, renovated, equipped, fireplace, parking. References. \$1400. 486-2937.

Apartment for rent

Big 3 1/2, metro Guy, 5min to SGW, May 1-August 30, can be renewed. \$800 incl. electricity, water, heating, laundry, gym, pool

and deppanneur in the building. montreal_aprt@yahoo.com or 933-1863.

For rent

Upper duplex in NDG, 2 bedrooms, all furnished, all included: heating, cable, 6 appliances, linens, dishes. Large and bright, nice garden and fireplace. Short or long term. 484-2163.

Apartment wanted

Executive who has to spend some time in the Montreal area is looking for furnished accommodations (3 months to a year). Condo or apartment of staff on sabbatical would be ideal. Contact Lise Mailloux, lise-m@mtl.eric.ca, with details of accommodations and for more specifics.

Room to sublet

For May and June (with possible lease takeover). Bright 5 1/2 at Sherbrooke & Beaconsfield. Hardwood floors, high ceilings, non smoking. Close to Loyola, grocery stores, banks, post, etc. \$314/month. Includes heating and hot water. Call 487-8797 or e-mail lindseyandora@hotmail.com

For rent

Spacious 4 1/2 on Dr. Penfield. Parking, indoor swimming pool with sauna and outdoor courtyard. Huge balcony with amazing view, close to restaurants, clubs. \$1650/month all inclusive. Available June 1 but the date is flexible. Call Jordana or Jen at 845-9556.

Apartment for rent

Bright 2-bdrm with double living/dining room. High ceilings, storage space, quiet, very well kept building. Fully furnished + TV. Close to metro, grocery, library, park, shops, 15 min walk to Concordia. \$1200/month (all included). 792-5580.

Condo for rent

Mun's Island. Luxurious 2-floor condo. 2 bedrooms, hardwood floors, 3 appliances, quiet, very well kept building. Fully furnished + TV. Close to metro, grocery, library, park, shops, 15 min walk to Concordia. \$1200/month (all included). 792-5580.

Lower duplex for rent

Adj. Westmount, near The Boulevard, 10 min. from Hall Building, spacious 8-room with two bathrooms, oak woodwork, fireplace, exquisite garden, fully equipped, parking. \$1780. July 1. 893-4765.

Duplex 5 1/2 for rent in LaSalle

Good, quiet neighbourhood. Close to shopping centre and buses. Very clean, spacious, electric heating, possibility of parking in garage, balcony in front and back overlooking backyard. Call 361-2345 (pager) after 7 p.m.

Family home for rent

Until July 2006. In Pointe-Claire, 4 + 2 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, dining and family rooms, large deck in backyard, garden, private parking. Walk to trains, buses, schools, close to shopping malls, library, arena, parks and more. Call 808-4768.

You have a chalet but you don't go there every weekend?

Why not share it? We are an academic French-German couple with two kids. We are looking for a quiet place close to a river or lake not more than 2 hrs away from Montreal to go there about 10 weekends a year. If you are interested in this kind of arrangement contact us at ines.lindner@sympatico.ca

Condo exchange

Luxury 3 1/2, 5 min. from Concordia. In exchange for similar near U of T in Toronto. From July 1 for one year or more. 931 8231.

House for rent

Cozy semi-detached cottage with 3 bdrms and a finished basement. Carpeting, appliances, driveway, large garden. Available as of summer 2005 for 1 year or more. In a beautiful residential area. \$1,750/month (heating extra). Contact Chris at 738-7055 or e-mail at dzidecruz@hotmail.com

Unclassified

Financial Services

• There is no freedom without financial freedom. Investments, tax preparation, budgeting, debt management. J.L. Freed, MBA. 483-5130.
• Concordia graduate, with the experience in filing the income tax offers confidential and affordable service to all. Call 606-6222.

Furniture for sale:

• Elegant solid pine wall unit composed of 2 desks, bookshelves, compartments and a large mirror. Must see. Mahogany red colour. Call Christine 938-3193.
• IKEA couch, white, includes green removable cover, paid \$350, asking \$75 flat, like new. Call Carol at 941-6606.
• Solid, spacious desk with special area for computer and keyboard. Has 2 drawers and shelves. Light oak colour. \$200. Call 931-8314.
• Fridge, 16 cubic feet (white) in excellent condition - \$200.
• Sofa, love seat (green). \$175. Monitor - \$150. Call 367-4190 after 7 p.m. or e-mail humminbird_48@hotmail.com

To buy

Seeking a flatscreen monitor for \$150 or less. Phone: 367-4190 call after 7 p.m. or e-mail humminbird_48@hotmail.com

Do you like dogs?

We are looking for responsible adults to walk, feed and play with dogs at a boarding kennel located in Dorval. Staff needed 24/7. Call 420-0101, fax 420-0278, e-mail info@blueribboncanine.com

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